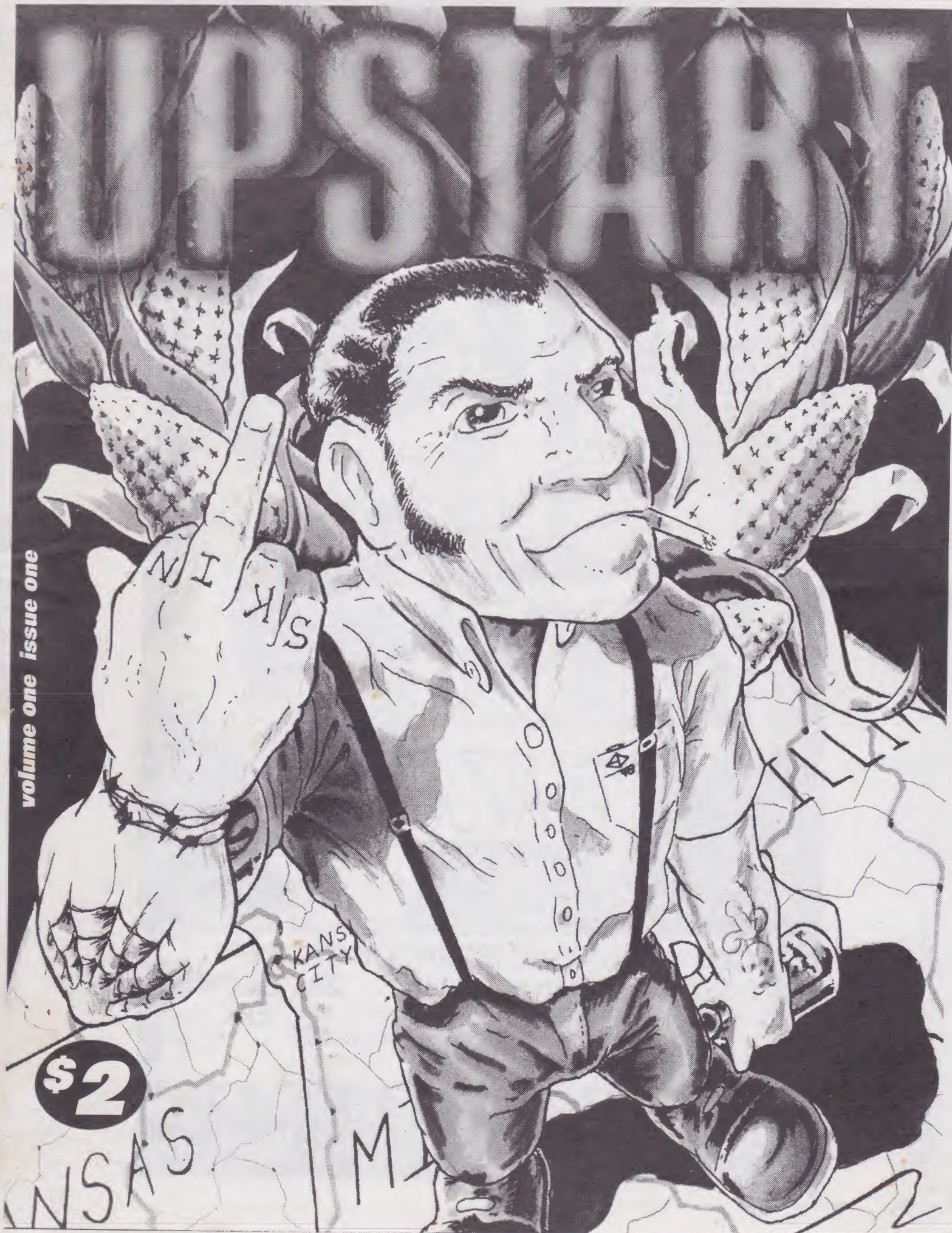


volume one issue one



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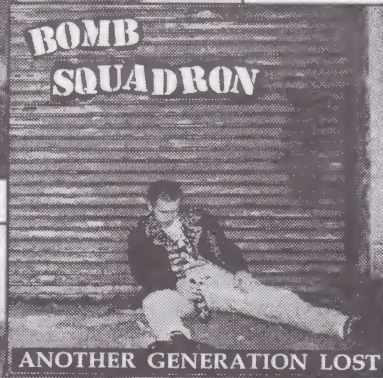
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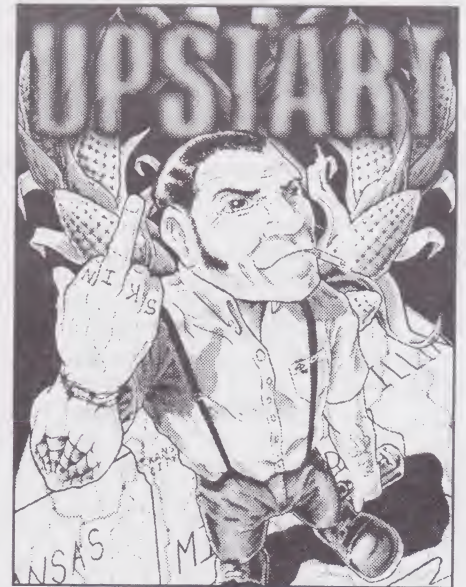
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It's going to be
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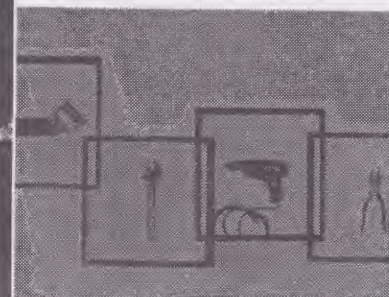
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the **strike** A Consensus Call to Struggle with Portland's Fight of Rage



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from the editor

Oi...in the Midwest!?!?

I present to you the first issue of UPSTART. UPSTART's main goal is to give the Midwest's Oi and Streetpunk scene its due respect. I plan to bring to you as many interviews and reports from other bands in the Midwest as possible. This first issue contains interviews from Kansas City's **Main Street Saints**, **District 13** of Chicago, Illinois and **Riot Squad** from Texas. Also featuring record reviews, proper hooligan etiquette and a little beef I had with Maximum Rock-n-Roll. It's a great start to what should be a long tradition.

I hope to use **UPSTART** as a vehicle to spread the word that the Midwest has more than corn and cowboys. Bringing well-deserved attention to our area and our bands, getting the attention of other bands and individuals from across the country and to help promote and build the scene in our area.

Note: The editor of Maximum Rock-n-Roll Tim Yohannan passed away on Friday April 5th. He was an inspiration for this zine in more ways than one. Oi...if thats O.K. with you! R.I.P.

almighty Tim Yo. For Tim's pleasure and yours I will state the fact that we are not a fascist band, we are not a racist band and not one of us is Italian. Many reviews in this zine are often only surface reviews.

Other bands often write in and complain that either you listened to one track and made a judgement from there or that the reviewer didn't read the lyrics. Therefore not getting the message that was meant to be, or that you didn't read the liner notes to see what cool indie bands they thanked or any of that other whinny crap that bands write about. Our review on the other hand was on the contrary. My friend Mr. YO listened to the record, read the lyrics and then he pulled out his microscope to find what he needed, to throw out some accusations since we have "ambiguous lyrics" that are not a "clever disguise" for our "sympathies". First of all, he compares our singer to Ian Stuart to get some punk rock blood boiling, then he babbles on about glorifying violence. Find me an Oi band that does not speak of violence. He then says we refer to "faggots" this is one of the funny parts

MAXIMUM ROCK'N'ROLL
P. O. Box 460760
San Francisco, CA 94146-0760

faggot ladder and I will tell you, I have no fuckin' clue, it just went well. And then he calls us fascist because of a song titled "Blackshirts" that says "a Blackshirts all right", which he states was the name for Mussolini's Italian fascist regime, which is true. What he neglects to present is the text which he took it from: "put the boot in, fuck 'em up, yeah good guys may wear white, but YOUR Blackshirt won't show blood, a Blackshirts all right." No where do we speak of Italian fascists. We are not boy scouts, that's for sure, but we play music about what we know and what we've been through.

Originally I wanted to write a letter in response to the review, but I decided against it and instead to put out my own zine. A zine that would not and will not misrepresent skinheads. To cover what's

Fuck you from a "punk rock" zine

This letter was intended for Maximum Rock-n-Roll. After careful consideration I decided not to play into their hands by responding to their actions in their home court. Instead I began what you are now holding in your hands:

FUCK YOU FROM A "PUNK ROCK" ZINE. Ha! First off, your letter made my day, or actually my letter that you scribbled "Fuck you from a punk rock zine" on the back of made my day. The letter asking for help from other skinheads to give proper representation to Oi music and the skins and punks who play it, and stepping away from the often one-sided nit picking coverage that your "punk rock" zine gives it. Sure its true that you've given some decent coverage to Oi bands (Bruce Roehrs, bless his heart,) and the like, but it's obvious that Oi is not what you do, it's what I do.

All of this brought on by a review of my band the Main Street Saints done by the

cause he really had to look for that one, since the word is said one time and the actual words spoken are "faggot ladder" now you may ask your self what is a

**[fagot also faggot-
n. 1. A bundle of
twigs, sticks, or
branches bound
together.**

**2. A bundle of
pieces of iron or
steel to be welded
or hammered into
bars. -tr.v. -oted, -
oting, -ots also -
goted, -gotting, -
gots. 1. To collect
or bind into a
fagot; bundle. 2.
To decorate with
fagoting.]**

going on in the present resurgence of Oi, I have no plans of covering racist or Nazi bands or organizations, what I want to do is plain and simple, speak up on behalf of skinheads and give them a source to speak for themselves. So I prepare an ad for your classified section. Speaking out against the misrepresentation that "punk rock" zines give to skinheads, asking for contributors to give a hand with the zine, and what do I get back for saying what I had to say? I get my ad back and scribbled on the back is "FUCK YOU FROM A "PUNK ROCK" ZINE!" Well I must of hit a fuckin' soft spot to deserve that one. You obviously didn't like what I had to say in my 60 words or less. My ad, which you would not accept, contained no fascist, racist or sexist material. I met your criteria and, as I stated before, I will not be publishing any racist or fascist material. All of which must not matter cause to you I'm just another skinhead who thinks with his fist and not with his head.

Thanks and by the way, FUCK YOU FROM AN OI ZINE! UPSTART c/o 13 LUCK RECORDS PO BOX 10005 KC MO 64171



web update

WHY YOUR SKINHEAD WEBSITE SUCKS

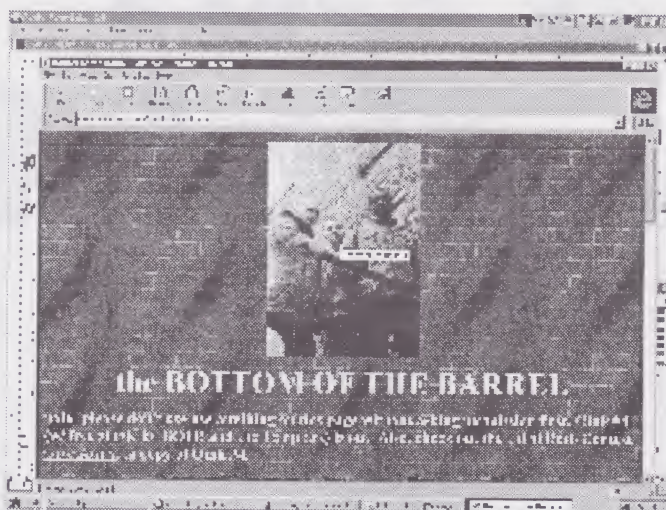
(and how to make it better)

by shane tanner

As a whole, most skinhead pages suck. One big reason is that most of us don't have ISDN or T1 connections [these lines make down-loading faster, way faster] and the people making these pages expect the multitude of graphics on their pages to magically appear. I don't have time to wait 15 minutes to see pictures of your "crew" or a rag tag bunch of kids from their small town that hang out together. And adding insult to injury you subject me to the complete history of skinheads as you see it. Goddamn! Get it together already. Here are some helpful hints to make your pages worth looking at.

DOs

- 1) Get Photoshop. It'll help you in a big way. I can hear you saying it's too expensive. Yes, this is true. Ask friends to "borrow" it. There are also channels on the Internet in warez rooms and webpages that have the full version of these programs to "try out."** This may not be legal, but would you rather pay \$700? With this program, you can manipulate photos, drawings, and text to really make your page shine. It can also help you reduce your colors of your pictures so that they load faster. When you get your picture to look the way you want it, go up to IMAGE>MODE>INDEXED COLOR. In the indexed color window, you can reduce your palette, making your pictures smaller in file size and keeping them how they should look. This is done by reducing the amount of colors you have in the image. This also makes viewers of your page happy because your pictures load faster.
- 2) Get Pagemill or Frontpage. These programs can be obtained the same way as Photoshop. These programs help you layout your webpage without having to know HTML language and are real easy to use. Take a look at the multitude of webpages out there and get ideas. It also helps to get a drawing pad and map out what you want everything on your pages to look like before you start. I understand that not everyone has a



bottom of the barrel

<http://www.akula.com/~botbskin/botb.html>

design background, but I see so many horribly designed webpages out there, especially personal webpages.

- 3) Check your page often. Sometimes your links break or move to a new address. There is nothing more frustrating then wanting to go somewhere and the link doesn't work.
- 4) Shop around for a FREE webpage. There are lots of places that offer up to 3 MB worth of space, like Geocities and Tripod. The only problem with these places lately is that when you go to a page on these servers they have a little pop-up windows that are commercials for things. AOL gives each screen name you have 2 MB of space, with up to 5 screen names on there, giving you the opportunity to have up to 10 MB of space!

DON'Ts

- 1) Tell me about the history of skinheads. Most of us own Spirit of 69 (or should have at least read it). Stop bombarding your viewers with this inane use of space. Put up a link to a page that explains that well. Tell us what it means to you to be a skinhead. Can you verbalize that?
- 2) Link to just skinhead stuff. What about other things that interest you or are you that two-dimensional?
- 3) Steal other peoples artwork. I've seen it happen to several people and it's even happened to me. Ask a person first and link to his/her page if they have one. If not, give the artist the credit they deserve.
- 4) Show me pictures and drawings that

take forever to load up. Learn how to reduce them. (See Get Photoshop)

With all that in mind, you should be ready to redo your shitty page or start a page that really kicks all the other skinheads asses. Below are a few URLs of pages that explain what I mean that you should look at.

Monkey Boots

This site is a prime example of good design coupled with a solid representation of skinhead related material. Be sure to check out the sound clips and the classified area to trade gear and other info. http://www.zebra.net/~mdjones/page_monkey_boots.html

Attempted Ska Page

This site is a great ska page with super graphics. It does take a little long to load up though.

<http://www.icct.net/~tanner/ska.html>

Bottom Of The Barrel

To the point - an Oi band in NYC. Typical design really, not visually exciting.

<http://www.akula.com/~botbskin/botb.html>

**** Top Ten productions does not condone "trying out" software packages free from the web [or anywhere else]. This is a felony act and if caught you could face time in the big house. Remember, Big Brother is watching.**

UPSTART

Issue One Volume One May 1998

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"It's our right..."

by **sherwood goodenough**

Most soccer fans simply sit back in their assigned seats and show their support politely. They cheer at the big moments, some wear rainbow wigs others wave streamers. They unobtrusively sip overpriced American beer which they buy from the beer concession. They go home with gas pains, a headache, a weak buzz, and they're satisfied.

But from the cheap seats in the general admission area of the stadium, a small band of would-be rioters shakes the stands with undistilled anger and naked aggression. Predictably, pandemonium rises from their ranks like the foam head rises on a freshly poured pint of stout.

They're the Manson family of Major League Soccer. Drunk on Guinness, Harp, and rage, they spew a steady stream of noise at the field.

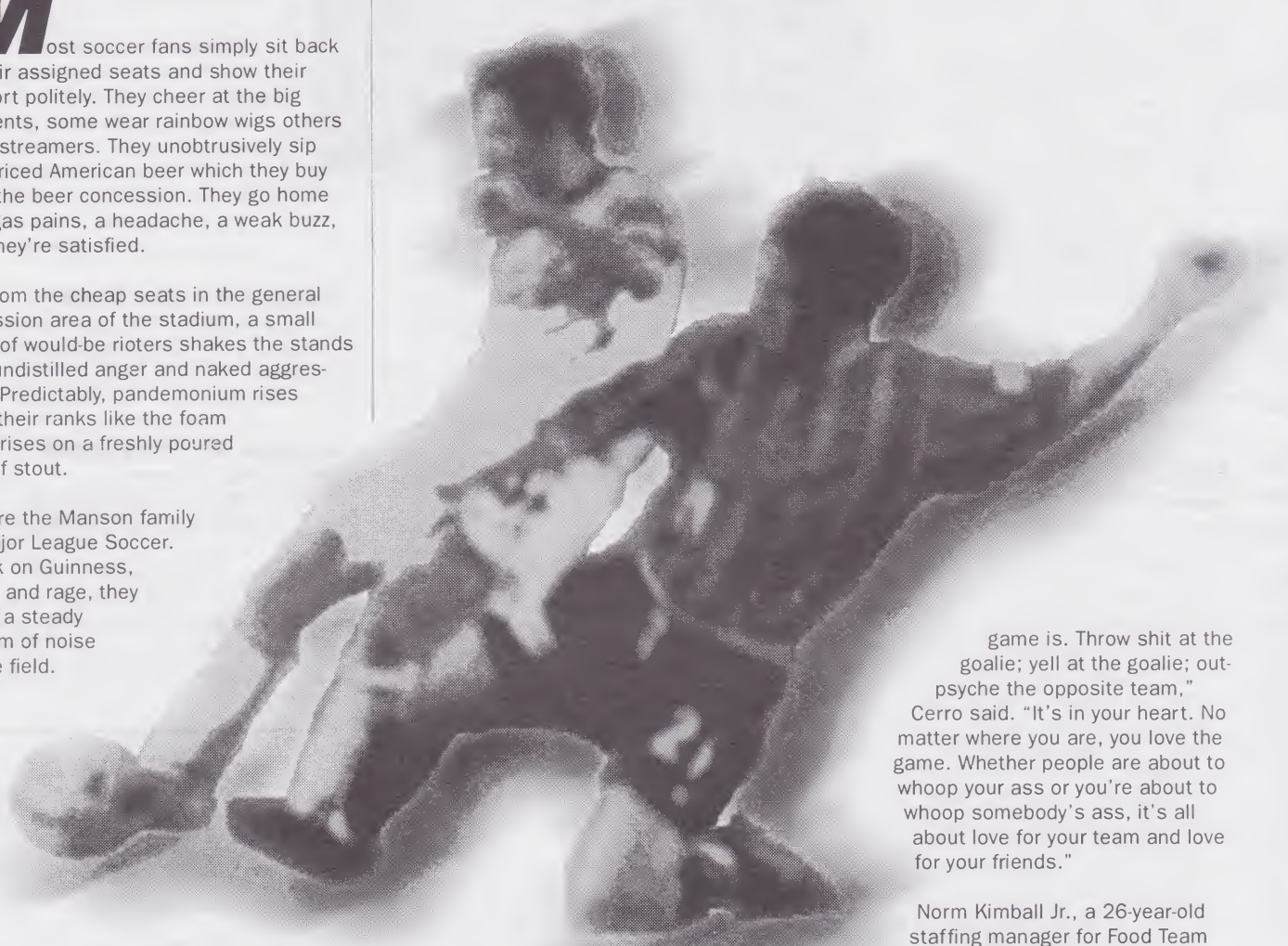
They sing, chant, catcall, insult and curse at anyone in the stadium who's not on the Wizard's starting lineup. Fan assistance employees and security guards monitor them throughout the game. Johnson County soccer moms discretely move their children away as the group's chanting grows too obscene for virgin ears. High school kids and super-fans look on with conspicuous fascination and curiosity. They are the Hooligans, and they support the Kansas City Wizards.

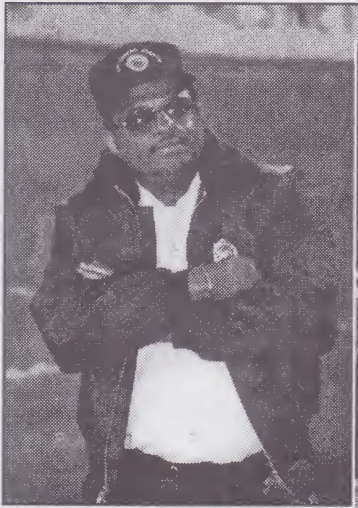
Eduardo Cerro typifies a Hooligan. The 24-year-old thermographic technician at Grimm's Tattoo Studio has been a fan all

his life. He grew up in Santa Fe, Argentina, where soccer is football and being a supporter is a commitment not just a pastime. His head is shaved, his arms sleeved in ink, and on his back he wears the Hooligans' signature white on black Umbro jersey. He attends to his duties as a fan with an almost military dedication—smuggling in pint cans of Guinness, venomously ridiculing the opposite team, and incessantly chanting dirges in praise of his side. For him and most of the Hooligans, crowd participation and being a "real" fan is almost as important as winning the match. "When you've got a good crowd it doesn't matter how shitty the

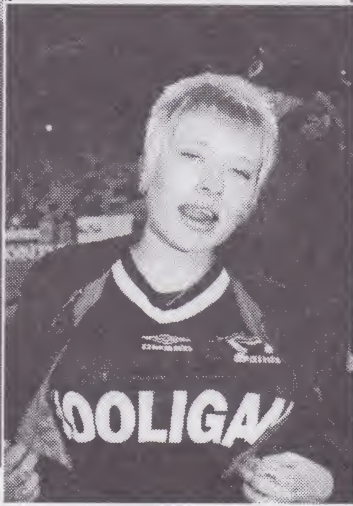
game is. Throw shit at the goalie; yell at the goalie; out-psyche the opposite team," Cerro said. "It's in your heart. No matter where you are, you love the game. Whether people are about to whoop your ass or you're about to whoop somebody's ass, it's all about love for your team and love for your friends."

Norm Kimball Jr., a 26-year-old staffing manager for Food Team Inc., said that familial loyalty to friends and the team is what lures people into being Hooligans. "Growing up watching (European) soccer matches, I always thought it was cool how people would sing songs and chants. I thought it was a great idea because it keeps them busy during the one-nil games," he said. "Three seasons ago who would have thought that it would come to this with the Hooligans. And now word is getting around and people want to join up and be a part of it, part of something unique." He added that it is that drive to be a part of the mixed madness of adoration and hatred that makes a person a true fan. "Sure, I could go by myself and watch the

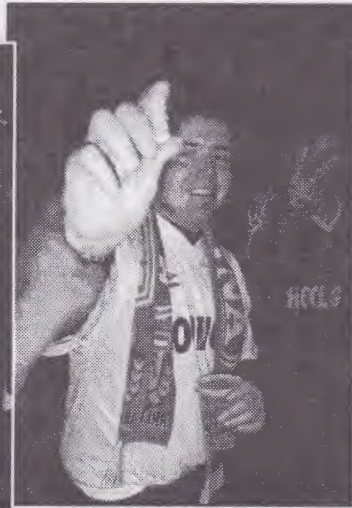




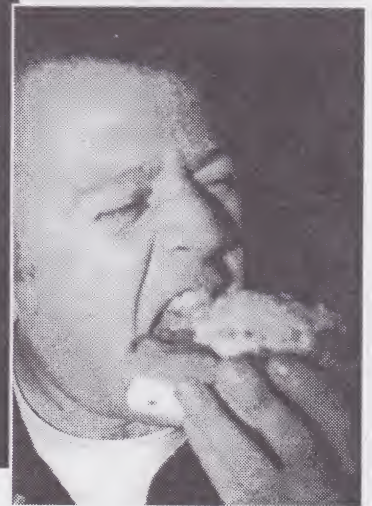
security



maryellen



ed



adrian

game, but to go with a group and share that common bond—I find that great. That's something I always wanted to do. You see that in American football games and American basketball games, but not like this."

Denzil Attenborrow, a 26-year-old tig welder from Burbage, England, has been a fan of proper football for 25 years. "Me dad took me to me first game when I was still in me nappies," he said. He's seen matches in England, Scotland and America, and in his opinion to be a real fan you have to feel the game, not just observe it. "Would you cry if your team lost in the theater of your dreams? That's a true fan," he said nursing a pint and speaking like a statesman. "The most important thing is your team winning isn't it. All you want to see is your team win."

There are a lot of elements to being a fan but 25-year-old K.C. native Alan Thompson,

a tattoo artist at Iron Age Tattoo Studios in St. Louis, Mo., added there really is no formal ideology, philosophy or instruction manual to being real or true whether your trying to be a fan, a Hooligan or anything else. "There is no philosophy, none. Because all you have to do is be there and things will happen," he said. "The best part of being a fan is being a fan, absolutely. If I need to explain it to you, then you wouldn't understand."

Hooligan babe, as 21-year-old Kyra Fox calls herself, added that fan support isn't just about brotherhood. The Kansas City, Kan. native and English Major at KU has been a soccer fan since she was five. "I don't just go because of my boyfriend, I go because I love it," she said. "I love the camaraderie because when everybody is into it, it's almost like an orgasm," she said without an ounce of shame. "I think that's what gets the players going, it's everybody chanting for them. When

everybody is involved it's like it's the best orgasm you can have." She added that there's a lot more than just a sense of duty luring women to come out and root for the team. "These guys are fucking hot," she said, again with no shame at all. "Those fucking leg muscles! I could have just eaten them, just like they were burger patties. "After the game they come by and you shake their hands, and you can see how hard they work. It's like total customer satisfaction."

For 23-year-old Johannah Griffin of Oskaloosa, Iowa, being a Hooligan is like therapy. Pursuing a degree at UMKC's premed program and living on her own leave her with a profound need for stress relief. "The best part about football is the escape. I go to school full-time. I work three jobs. So the best part is the escape," she said. "You get to go out for an afternoon, enjoy a game, support your friends, support your team." "I also think they have the best supporters," she

"It's going to be our heritage."

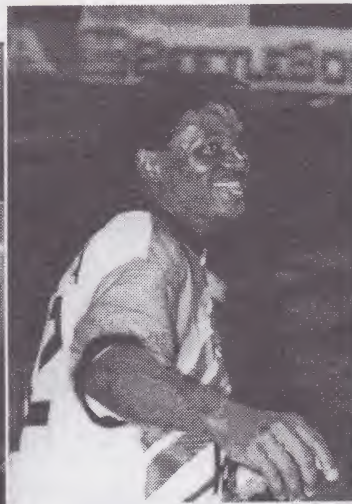
-ed cerro



preki



christian



digital



brian

added. "(Wizards) supporters, how do I say it... I don't know... have the highest IQ's."

Colm Delahunt, a bartender at Harlings, has been watching the Hooligans come in after matches for two years. A native of Dublin Ireland and a lifelong fan of the game, he's used to the kind of fanatical devotion the Hooligan's bring to Kansas City's MLS franchise. "They're supporting the number one game in the world. I'm trying to get other people to support it too," Delahunt said. "It's amazing to see

people doing this here in the middle of Kansas City. They're like ambassadors for the sport. "I'd like to see more people doing this." But there is a dark side to the world of fan support. In the melee, the excitement, fans can get a little out of control. "I've seen two New Castle fans run away from about 100 Lester fans. The two Newcastle fans found an ambulance moving away and they thought it would be safe to jump into the back of it. But the Lester fans basically ripped the doors of the back of it and neat the hell out of them

anyway," Attenborrow said. Delahunt recalled going to a match between Ireland and England, when deranged fans ripped the seats from the top level and threw them down at the spectators below. "That's the worst I've ever seen and I never want to see that again," he said. The Irony he said is that the match was supposed to be a friendly match.

However, Great Britain doesn't have a monopoly on madness. Cerro can attest that supporters from the Western Hemisphere get just as caught up in the throws of mob violence as their British counterparts. —And he likes that! "The most extreme thing? It's got to definitely be when I was in Argentina," he said taking time to down a shot of whiskey. "It was a classic hometown game, Union versus Colon. There were rubber bullets, fire hoses, I'm not lying, and concussion grenades. Both supporters beat the snot out of each other and I still didn't go to jail. That was my favorite memory."

Even Kansas City fans are susceptible to the whims of chaos. During the home opener, Griffin had an unidentified psychopath touch her with his butt as he mooned the roving cameraman at Arrowhead. Strange as it may seem, there's a tradition and a culture the Hooligans are preserving in the way they support their team. In their minds when they march through the gates at Arrowhead, the Hooligans are holding up an invisible standard which testifies to their integrity. Their team can suck, the stands can be empty and rain can pour from the sky like cold piss. But they will still eat, drink and be motherfuckers to whoever can hear them. They'll still curse at the referees and leave their empties on the ground when they leave. They'll still be who they are without reservation, without compromise, without defeat. "It's our right," Cerro said. "It's going to be our heritage." **IS**



war of words



district 13 from left: rick, jay, niko, louie, vinny

DISTRICT 13

Chicago's answer to the new rising in the Oi renaissance... for the interview I talked to their vocalist Niko, and the drummer Vinny.

US: What's your names ?

N: Niko

V: Big Vinny

US: How long has District 13 been together?

N: 7-8 months

V: Something like that, its been less than a year. But were all musicians though, so it doesn't matter, we can rock the fuckin house!

US: What was the reason for forming an Oi band, I know that both of you are currently in other bands?

N: It all started with an idea, with me and Rick McKelvey about five years ago. When Rick was in Chicago, we talked about getting an band together, 'cuz we are both skins, and we both play in a lot of hard-core bands, but we always wanted to do an Oi band. We could never find us enough guys who wanted to do it, or actually skins who could play instruments enough to get a band together.

V: It was so easy too, we were astonished that nobody had ever came forward to actually produce a really good Oi band here in Chicago.

N: We got Oi bands in Chicago, we got Los Ninos Heroes, we got Street Fleet, which are the up and coming but that's about it.

V: We've never had anybody who was really wiling to come out and set out an anti-racist, straight forward message. A lot of people don't like to involve politics with being a skinhead, but really its a big part of it.

N: I think that its a part of it, but I think that what most skins need to realize is that racism is fucked up, and that we don't need to swing with any political party as long as we are individuals. On a whole as being skins, if you swing with a political party you take away the individualism of being a human being, I think that that shit stomps it out. The whole band is anti-racist, we don't want to swing with the left wing, the right wing I don't believe in wings ya' know, i walk this earth, I'm not flying.

V: That and somebody needed to bring rock and roll back into Oi. That's what brought us all together, were all musicians, were all experienced, we just wanted to come together for something,

and make something positive. Something for some one to look forward to seeing, the scene is pretty fucked up, its been getting kind of lame, the bands are spread out, people don't want to hang out. There's been a lot of animosity, a lot of bullshit, little arguments and what not in the scene. We want to give people something to come together on, come to see a show, forget about all the bullshit, knock a beer back and listen to some good rock and roll.

US: I know that the both of you are long time members of the Chicago scene, how have things changed in your eyes over the years as the scene has grown?

N: The Chicago scene has swung in and out, what held the scene together was the whole punk and hard-core scene. Its been stated before, American skins were pulled into the scene through punk and hard-core, that's just how America operated, and Chicago is no different. I think that the mid-west has been coming on strong, we've got Oi bands, we've got the Main Street Saints, the Service...

V: The mid-west has been silent for a long time, hopefully things will change from here on out. Maybe this will be like the first step and people will follow on, forget about all the bullshit, all those stupid petty little crap. All these little



kids are worried about getting arrested, getting in fights, if they would just pick up an instrument and jam every thing would just be awesome...

N: Don't put that word, awesome in there

V: I like that word, it rocks!

N: I think what it comes down to is basically, we are all working class, we all work all week long and try to get things done, and we want to go out and have a good fuckin time. I'm definitely into the smash the Nazis, but on the other note I want to drink and have a good time with my friends, and I want to be able to live life.

V: It's hard to do that wit the scene the way it is now, at least here in Chicago. I'm mean hopefully...were only one band, but maybe we will start something you know.

N: I think something already started and were gonna' help push it.

US: Do both of you play in the Rat Bastards?

V: No

N: I'm in the Rat Bastards, and so is Rick here who will join in the interview. Oh not to be confused with Rick McKelvey, who along with me started the band. Rick (Mc) had to leave for reasons that don't need to be noted, just some shit that he had to take care of in his life. So he's taking off

for awhile, when he comes back his spot will be open. Filling in for on guitar Rick Mc. is Rick P. who plays for the Rat Bastards. Say hello Rick.
R: HEY!!

US: Do you think that people look at you differently, after one night seeing you with the Rat Bastards and then the next with District 13?

N: No...the funny thing about Chicago, the skins and the punk rock crowd are pretty much the same. The big difference with the Oi band is when we play with them the crown is primarily skinheads, but for the Rat Bastards you get both the skins and the punks coming out. So almost everyone at our shows has already seen the Rat Bastards a 100 times.

US: So nobodies second guessing your intentions?

N: Oh no, they know, they know.

V: It's a totally different thing, were coming off with a positive message...

N: I wouldn't say positive, were coming off with a real message. A lot of it isn't positive, its more of a "wake the fuck up" not a positive "hey lets all be da-de-da what ever shit". It's more about open your fuckin eyes. Other songs are just about the bullshit we go through in life as people, not just skins, just as the working class in general, this position we have been put in.

V: Sometimes it takes a out of town

threat, to bring a lot of people together in the city. Hopefully people will realize, instead of just coming on the bullshit, we should come together on

the music, that means a lot

US: So what are some of your musical influences?

V: Poison Idea, Blitz, fuckin There's a million

N: Done yet man...I think every Oi band that is in existence has been influenced by all the stuff out of England, the Blitz, 4 skins all the fuckin Oi bands, the standard shit that anyone would say.

V: Peter and the Test Tube Babies

N: All that shit is going to influence bands today, maybe not so much the style of it, but definitely the feeling.

V: Its still alive, and we know that cause New York City has a band like Oxblood which fuckin rocks. It's real American Oi! I'm tired of everybody trying to play the part of this English fuckin poser bullshit, trying to be like the Business and shit. I'm glad to see people coming out playing straight up street fuckin Oi!

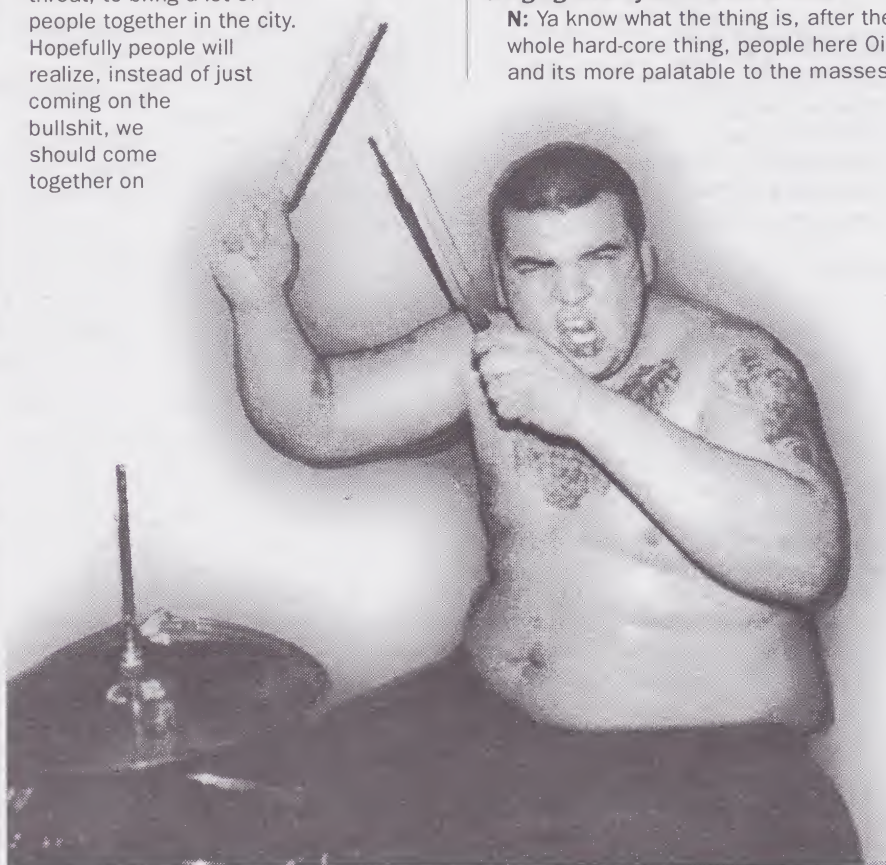
N: American Oi is really different than European Oi, I think it has a different sound you know, like the Main Street Saints, they got the more rock and roll style...

V: Yeah another prime example, the guys from K.C.(Saints) the Service...

N: It's street rock ya know. It's just basically we are trying to swing it all together and bring everyone down. The funny thing is Oi is really big right now...

US: Do you think that's gonna change a lot of shit, since Oi is almost being accepted, like all those punk bands were. Fuck the Green Day scenario, Fuck the Rancid scenario, Oi is coming up and its bringing new eyes to what is ours.

N: Ya know what the thing is, after the whole hard-core thing, people here Oi and its more palatable to the masses. In





district 13 tears it up at home

general, it's slower, it has a rhythm to it, it's easier for people to listen to. More people are going to like it. As far as i see it, if that exposer brings it out to more people who don't care, then fuck it man, that's just gonna make it better for us. Maybe it will kill some of the underground, the stuff that made it. Just like punk and hard-core at one time, they were underground ya know, now its all this happy pop punk bullshit, that on the charts. No matter what Oi is too rough and real to ever just break through, there might be one or two bands that do it ya

know, but we don't give a fuckin shit about that. We just want to play to all the skins who've been through all the shit and to the new kids.

V: We play for beer and for fun ya know, cuz were all musicians. District 13 in a nutshell, is sex drugs and rock and roll
N: I don't know about the drugs part. He's a youngster he doesn't understand yet.

US: Where do you see yourselves headed?

N: Were gonna keep this going, its just hard to keep a band going when you have to work full time, and take care of shit too. Its hard to just take off and tour

and shit, its just rough, but were gonna stick together.

US: What's coming up?

N: We got a split, hopefully coming up with the Main Street Saints, were putting out our own 7 inch, and we'll see where it goes from there, only fuckin time can tell you know. I think all we want out of the band is to be able to go play somewhere and remind people why they've been into Oi and Hard-core, and that they aren't just losin' it.

V: and getting laid!

N: Which Vinny never does, but he is still trying very hard.

V: But I try god dammit, I try.

N: It's more than that, its about the message, and the feeling that come across in music.

US: Any last words?

V: All I have are the three words that i live by...sex, drugs, and rock-n-roll.

N: Support your local scene, support the bands that come from out of town, support the Oi. If we stick together we can make it fuckin happen, we can bring back the scene. Oi was huge and its gonna be huge again, the skin are coming back, and i just hope that people open their fuckin eyes and see Oi for what it was supposed to be, not the shit it has been twisted into, left and right ya know what I mean. I think that Oi is about skins, neither red nor racist, 100% pure skinhead. **US**

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THE MAIN STREET SAINTS

Kansas City's premier Oi band, have been causing chaos and hurting feelings for over a year and a half. The Main Street Saints got together in the winter of 95 and after eliminating the weak, and a change in name, they have finally found the line up and spirit to put Kansas City on the Oi map. This interview took place at the world famous Grand Emporium (on Main Street of course).

Interviewed are Saint Jason the Mighty (J), Santo Eduardo Cerro (E), Saint Timothy of Loudmouth (T), La Pucelle Brianne (B).



US- Why don't we start with some introductions.

E- I'm Ed I play guitar, I sing sometimes, sometimes I whoa.

B- I'm Brianne, and I play drums.

J- (interjecting) she masturbates.

US- What's your part in the band?

J- I don't know, I masturbate.

T- I'm Tim, bass player extraordinaire.

E- Peckerhead!

US- How long have you guys been together?

E- Like ten years.

J- Thirteen years.

B- Seventeen years.

T- Two weeks.

US- Have you been in any other bands before this one?

E- I was in the Outsiders, Ruck Munster, there was another band back in the metal days, it was called Anesthesia. Before that it was all solo.

US- Mariachi?

E- A little Spanish guitar, you know.

US- Brianne were you in a:y other bands before this?

B- I was with Barry Manalo a little, I was

with Metallica, that's about it.

E- NeverReady!!

B- NO!

US- How were the Metallica years?

B- They were good, but I had to quit the band, they were just going downhill.

US- Jason, what about you?

J- I hit myself in the head with a hammer.

T- I was in Neck Brace, and in a band called AfterMath, I sang for both, but now I'm bass player extraordinaire.

US- What prompted you to start out the band?

J- We couldn't find more talented or capable people, than ourselves.

E- To have a fuckin Oi band, Kansas City's never had an Oi band, were the first fuckin Oi band in Kansas City. It took a lot of trial and error, we were the Outsiders at first, that kinda' got metal and it died off...

J- My doctor said it would be good for me to have some sort of physical release for my tension.

T- Yeah, they were in the Outsiders at first and that lasted over a year or so, and then the styles of music started to clash within the band, and they eventually broke up. Shortly after that I got together with Ed and Jason and we found some lackey to drool on the drums and denounce porn. The Main Street Saints were born.

US- What would you guys say your influences are?

J- Pornography.

US- Musically?

J- That's a good question, this interview sucks.

B- My influences are Vincent Perez.

E- My influences on guitar are stuff like, the Mid-Town BootBoys, Johnny Cash, who's that one guy, the new Jimi Hendrix guy, the guy with the dread locks?

J- Basically we've influenced a lot of people. We don't know where we get it from.

E- Everything from Motown, rock n roll, punk rock, reggae, country all of it.

J- BLUES!

E- Definitely the blues, Lightning Hopkins definitely my main guitar influence.

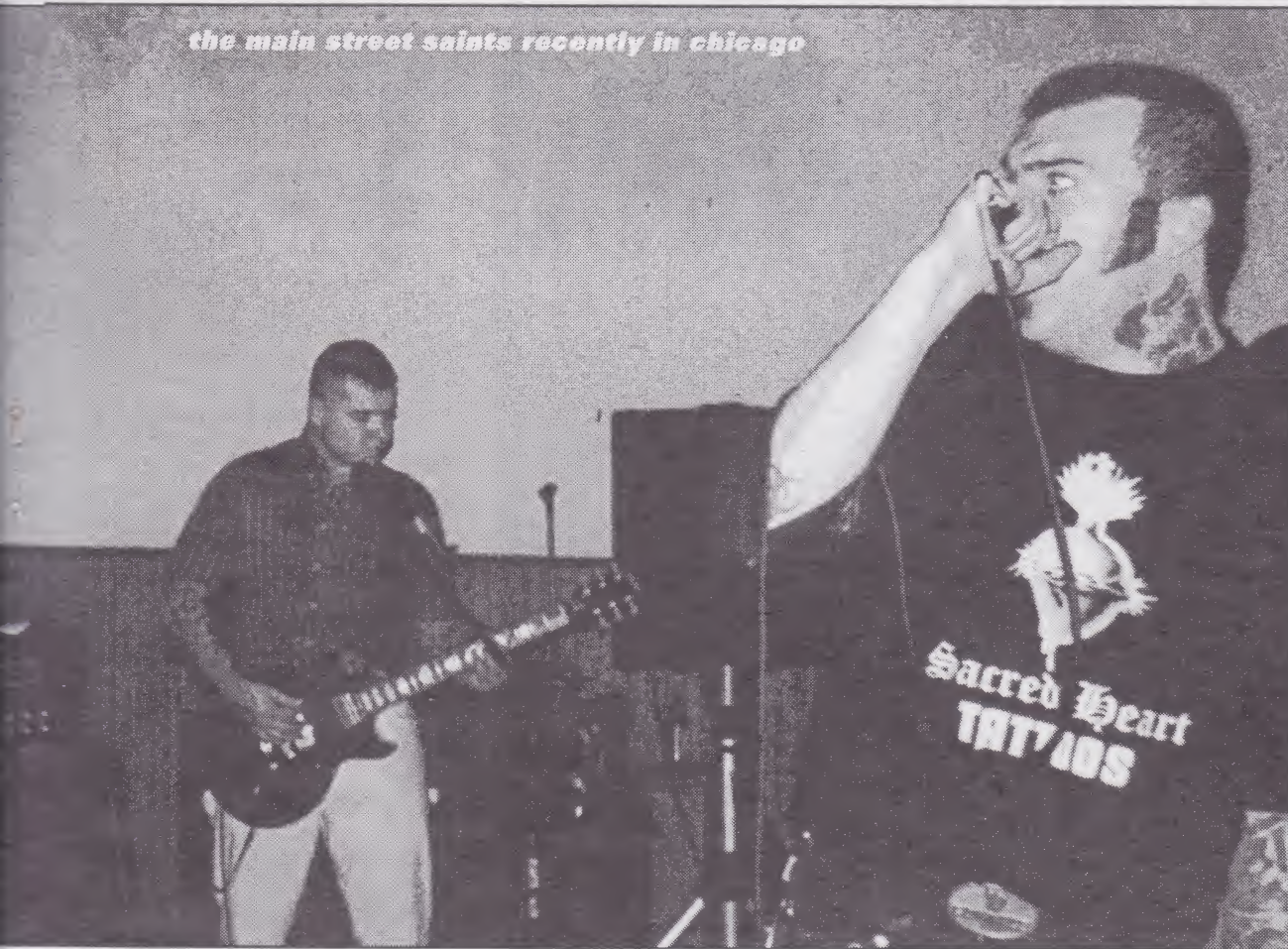
J- I like Toots and the Maytals, David Allen Cole and Skrewdriver but I also like Lynard Skynard and that new band, I don't know, i like reggae music.

T- Blues and punk, anything that drives the neighbors insane at 7 in the morning. Anything with a clean style.

US- What are some of the things you write about?

J- And I like Eddie Clean Head Vincent, but I don't play the trumpet, and his daddy died in 1991 on a golf course, and he was really cool, a blues guy. I write about real life, yeah everyday real

the main street saints recently in chicago



life. Every thing is true and every thing is about real life, You don't really have to make anything up.

US- So Maximum Rock-n-Roll accused you guys of being fascist, what do have to say about that?

E- Thank you.

J- Not thank you, we don't like being called fascist, were gonna go kick their asses. We don't like what they believe though.

B- Oi! if that's O.K. with you !?!

T- Me personally, I'm tired of their one sided point of view, if you don't fit into their political status they label you a fascist, so who does that make the fascists.

US- You guys said you like Skrewdriver, aren't you afraid of being pegged as a racist band?

J- No.

E- No, I'm black.

B- I like drinking skrewdrivers.

T- Who gives a shit!

J- Basically music is music and you don't have to accept the whole fuckin racist ideology, and I couldn't really give a shit if you call me a fascist. I'm more concerned with people calling me a Nazi, I think there's a difference. Yeah I like Skrewdriver, but they're dead and gone, they don't influence my fuckin life, I like rock-n-roll music.

US- I've noticed you've been through a few drummers since your first release.

Why's that and how does your new drummer compare?

E- She actually knows how to play drums and she even owns a set.

J- We didn't have to teach her and she made us sound better. We love her a lot cause she kicks ass. Now I want to clear up this fuckin Nazi fascist thing, I hate it when people call me a Nazi, NAZIS ARE BAD, I HATE NAZIS, Nazis fuckin suck. I like a lot of Nazi music, believe it or not. I can listen to the lyrics and the music, and I can think to myself, damn that's a rock-n-roll song, and I love this song. On the other hand with songs like Strike Force by Skrewdriver, which is about oppressing black people in South Africa, that's what I call fuckin bullshit. Most Nazi skinheads are not the people you meet on the street or meet as skinheads. Lots of Nazi skinheads I met don't have jobs, don't fuckin pay taxes, sniff glue, fuckin look like a shithead, they set a bad example and actually hurt me and my life style, that's why I kick them the fuck out of my town.

US- Brianne, how do you like being in a band with a bunch of skinheads?

B- I like it when were at practice and they all take their shirts off.

J- (speaking for brianne) I like their

skinhead tattoos.

US- What's the skinhead scene like in your town?

J- Well there's no fuckin Nazis.

E- Our scene's all right, small but tight, more like a family. You come here, you wanna' be part of the family, its cool, we take care of each other, we all got jobs. You come here and fuck up you'll get thrown out of town.

J- That's right you come here, we'll get you a job, get you a reference for a place to live. You fuck up, we'll kick your fuckin ass and That's the end, and we'll take your fuckin shit.

E- Taylor you have debts pending!

T- This city is cool, I don't think any of the skinheads here are actually from this state, we get them imported from all across the U.S., even us. Kansas City is going to be the new skinhead mecca.

US- How are relations with other bands from the area. Do you as an

Oi band get along with them?

J- No we don't.

B- I get along with them but I don't think my band mates approve.

E- We tried getting along with those lesbians, they didn't like us. We fuckin tried, they didn't let us in, Fuck em'!

T- Guilt by association, but dammit I'm trying!

US- What about the Lawrence, Kansas scene?

E- No there's no problem with Lawrence, we just go over there and wreck their shows. We invite them over here to wreck our shows but they just don't ever seem to be able to do it.

J- We've got them pretty much subdued by now, we got them right where we want them. They don't act up at all, in fact if any Nazis want to come to our shows it would be better for you if we had the show in Lawrence. We love you guys.

E- Cheers to the skinheads in Lawrence who are worth anything...you know who you are.

US- Oi seems to be headed towards a upswing as of lately, Oi is becoming more popular and more Oi bands popping up. Do feel its more competition for you or do you feel its time to clear out the crop?

E- There's no competition, there always seems to be a skinhead revival every five years or so. Its having another one

now. Plus with the whole ska thing, its bringing more kids around.

J- I like the new ninth wave ska.

E- With ska and punk being on MTV and shit, there's obviously going to be a bigger surge of Oi bands. It will die down just like everything else, and we'll still be around, like we were the last ten million times there was a resurgence of skinheads. We're just going for our glory, our band and our glory.

US- So have you noticed since you guys have started that, two other Oi bands have popped up in your city, what do you have to say about that?

E- More power to them, I hope they get good enough to play with us soon, we need buddy bands.

US- What about the Gadjits spawning an Oi band?

E- Yeah whatever, grow the fuck up and get a job, move out of your parents fuckin house. Those kids are fine and what they do (with ska) is great, but don't come trample on my shit, Oi is what I've been doing its what I do every day. Don't be putting together an Oi band out in the fuckin suburbs, kiss my fuckin ass, move to fuckin midtown hang with the big dogs and then you can have an Oi band!

J- SUNDAY, SUNDAY, SUNDAY, WWF CAGE MATCH, MAIN STREET SAINTS vs. The GADJITS!

US- (J)- What do you think of gun control ?

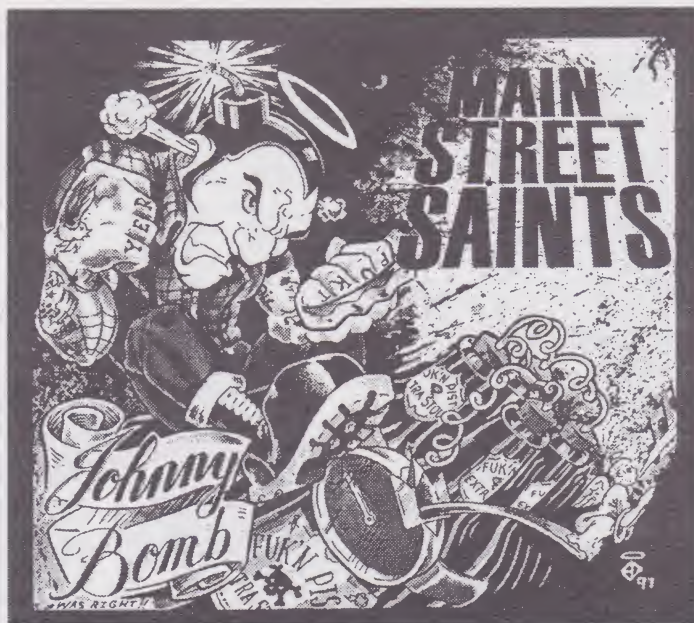
J- We don't like gun control, we like guns and stock piling ammunition, and we like going out to the woods and shoot at trees, and every once in awhile dealing with the bureau of Alcohol, tobacco and fire arms.

US- What are your future plans?

E- We want to record a whole bunch, get on as many comps, seven inches, or CD's as we can. Also try to play as many out of town shows as we can, Oi fests and stuff like that, good scenes, If you want us to play in your city, write us and we'll come down and party with ya.

J- World domination!

T- I'd just like to see this band go as far as we can. I think our style is unique enough to the point that nothing should be able



to stop us. We're fresh, we're new, we're gonna kick your ass and there's nothing you can do about it. I think if we got some good distribution, and played a lot of shows that the whole U.S. skin scene would agree with that.

E- We have a pretty unique sound, I think



main street saints from left: ed on guitar, vocalist jason, and tim on bass; above: brianne on drums

people will dig it and I think people will want us to play different places. I think we can take it pretty far, not just as an Oi band, but just being a band period.

US- Do you think your breaking away from the traditional English oi style?

E- I fuckin hope so, its already been done you know. Traditional English Oi was just a bunch of kids who couldn't really play their instruments, must of those great songs were people playing from the gut, but they really didn't know what the fuck they were doing. They were just picking up a guitar and playing, and putting it on tape, that's great and we love to cover that stuff. We also like to play stuff that's more difficult, not like opera rock you know but it ain't two

cords fuckin songs.

J- English Oi is all right but were fuckin Americans, we play American Oi, we just play rock-n-roll.

E- Also a lot of influence from French Oi bands, they really had a good style, flowing songs, not just ten second headaches, they really put good songs together. We're taking a little bit of that and a lot of American Oi influence, we definitely sound American.

US- So what makes a good Main Street Saints show?

J- Lots of Nazis.

E- Definitely lots of drunk fuckin people, getting into what we are doing, that makes for a real good show.

J- Lots of drunk Nazis, they're easier to beat up when they're drunk.

B- Free beer and running water.

T- When ever the crowd gets into it and also the other bands that we play with. Uh oh here comes Lumpy.

J- What do you think of the Main Street saints Lumpy?

L- Oh they fill panties with cream cheese.

US- What about El Nino

E- We can whoop it.

US- Any last words?

E- Cheers to all the Oi bands who are either starting out or that have been around, get a hold of us, come play in Kansas City, we'll set up shows, no problem. If not we'll come to your town and play.

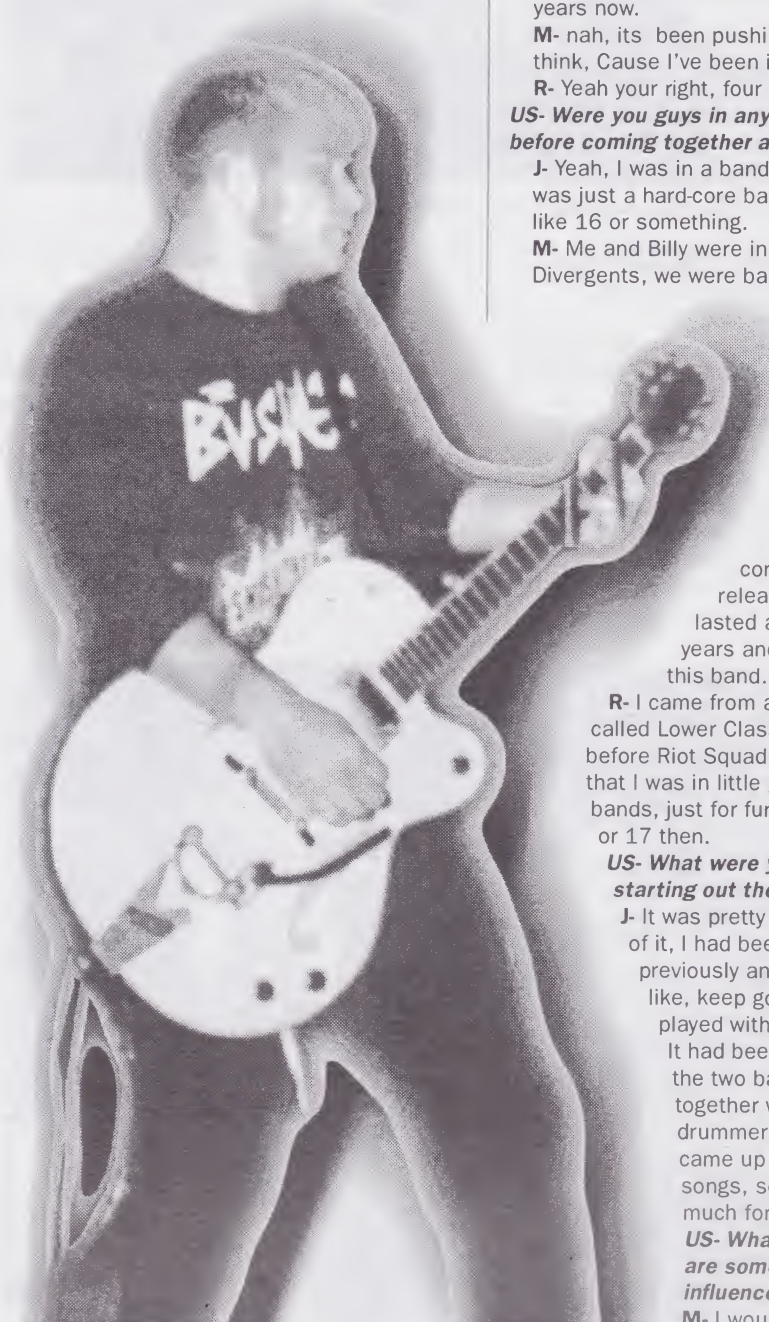
B- If you ever see me at a show, buy me a drink.

J- Last words, no not yet, definitely not ready for last words yet.

T- What does not kill me makes me funnier. **US**

RIOT SQUAD

Riot Squad was getting ready to play a show at the Hurricane in K.C.MO, when I caught them to do this interview. Hailing from Dallas Texas, Riot Squad has been laying down their own original genre of punk rock for years, and now are ready to conquer the world with their fast paced, southern flavored punk. Interviewed are Joe (J), Matt (M), Billy (B), Ron (R).



US-Lets start this off with some introduction and what your role is in the band.

J- Joe Blow, I play guitar and sing.

M- I'm Matt Shrader, I play bass.

B- Billy Blitz, I play guitar.

R- Ron Riot, Drums

US- How long has Riot Squad been together?

J- This line up has been together about three years. We started originally in 89, I'm the only original member from the first line up.

US- How many other line ups have there been?

J- Quiet a few in the early days but this...

M- is the most steady line up we've had.

J- probably about two or three, maybe, if that.

US- So then how long has this line up been together?

R- We've been pushing it about three years now.

M- nah, its been pushing four years I think, Cause I've been in four years.

R- Yeah your right, four years.

US- Were you guys in any other bands before coming together as Riot Squad?

J- Yeah, I was in a band called AWOL, it was just a hard-core band. We were just like 16 or something.

M- Me and Billy were in a band called Divergents, we were basically a hard-

core band, we only released a 7 inch, lasted about 3 or 4 years and then we joined this band.

R- I came from a punk band called Lower Class Struggle, before Riot Squad and then before that I was in little garage punk bands, just for fun, just, I was 16 or 17 then.

US- What were your motives for starting out the band?

J- It was pretty much for the fun of it, I had been in this band previously and I wanted to like, keep going, and I hadn't played with them in awhile.

It had been a year between the two bands, I got together with this drummer guy and we came up with some songs, so yeah pretty much for the fun of it.

US- What would you say are some of your major influences?

M- I would have to say

Misfits have always been an influence.

J- Misfits

R- Social Distortion

J- The Ramones

B- Old rock-n-roll, old garage bands.

US- I said to Ron the other day that you reminded me somewhat of youth Brigade, and you seemed a bit offset by that?

R- Yeah, remember I told you he said that we sound "nice" on the CD, like were a happy band.

US- It just that the recording is so clean and tight...

M- Maybe a clean recording could make you sound happy.

R- Don't get me wrong, I like Youth Brigade, I liked them way before...

M- We've played with Youth Brigade before.

R- I didn't get mad I just thought it was funny, its just that we've never been compared to Youth Brigade, ever. We been called everything but that.

US- Live you guys have a harder edge than you do on the recording, the CD has such good production.

B- That's what they do to you in the studio.

US-How did you get hooked up with Last Beat Records?

J- Our old drummer used to work there.

B- That was pretty much it.

R- What a bogus way to get a record. He used to work in the record store.

J- We begged them to put out his record

B- and they did.

M- They put out two of our records.

B- And were working on another.

US- What's the scene like in Texas?

J- Pretty cool, it varies from show to show, most of the all ages shows are the best.

M- Dallas is going on, there's things pretty much going on all the time.

R- there's a big skin scene and a big rock-a-billy scene. The punk scene is pretty big too.

M- Dallas is actually on the rise man, everything is going on.

R- Little separate sections, but they all hang out and usually go to shows together. Things tend to be pretty calm, between different factions or whatever you want to call them.

US- What about the different big cities in Texas, like Houston or Austin?

M- Everybody knows Austin has a huge music scene, but their really into themselves, and they don't welcome people outside of their scene into it.

R- Although we have Lower Class Brats, our buddies down there, their a bad ass oi band.

B- Great shows at their house.

R- We have fun playing in Austin its just ...

M- they're sceneaphobic, they have their own shit and they don't want anyone else coming in, cause you know, its a



riot squad members from left: matt,ron, joe and billy at the fuse box in Kansas Clty, Missouri

college town and every other person is a musician. Houston used to have a pretty cool scene, now I don't know if anything is coming out of Houston.

J- Except for 30 foot fall that's about it.

B- Houston five fucking hours away from Dallas, St. Louis is closer to Kansas city than Houston is to Dallas.

J- We play actually Oklahoma City more than we do Austin, even more than Fort Worth.

R- Oklahoma City is bad ass, it really is.

US- Is it just a big scene or...

R- Its getting there.

B- Its a nice tight word of mouth scene, same with Omaha, its incredible.

US- Are the other Dallas bands supportive of each other.

M- There's a little back stabbing here and there usually, but were friends with a lot of the bands, were pretty much one of the only bands of our genre out there.

B- Dallas is a pretty tough town, its really dog eat dog.

M- Most of the bands out there on to the newer school punk, as far as the punk rock or like you know the art rock scene or whatever. But we still know em' all and there's still little back stabbing going on but for the most part were all nice to each other.

R- Riot Squad, basically right now one of the oldest bands in Dallas that are still playing to this day, like the longest running punk band.

M- Every once in awhile the Nerve Breakers or Yeah, Yeah, Yeah try and get back.

US- What are some of the best cities you've played while out on tour.

J- Oklahoma City, Omaha

B- St. Louis is bad ass, for us at least.

R- Iowa City is getting good, actually, its really surprising.

J- Yeah we had a good show there the other night

B- no shit man they all came out.

M- Madison (WI) getting good, Chicago sucked for us this time, but ,we know we can do something there.

R- Chicago's tough man, but were

gaining steam there, thanks to some friends we have there now.

US- So what comprises a good Riot Squad show?

B- A fight (a chuckle from the band then denial)

R- beer, chaos, beer, beer flying every where.

M- Beer, and just a large crowd, we get confidence from a larger crowd, that may make us amateurs or what-not, but we usually play better to a larger crowd.

R- Not a bunch of zombies out there, at



least clap or do something, don't just stand there like an ass, like we've experienced in the past.

US- Like the other night (Riot Squad played the Fuse Box in Kansas City, with the Main Street Saints and Jiffy Boy. It had rained all day and the mood was set in a dreary fashion.)

R- That wasn't bad at all....

M- Compared to Indiana...

R- Bloomington Indiana, it was like someone had nailed their fuckin feet to the floor, I didn't even think they were alive, I thought they were just cadavers.

M- They put us with a ska band

R- Riot Squad and ska don't go together

US- How have you guys gone over on the coasts?

J- We haven't been out there yet.

R- That's new plans for the spring, east coast and west coast.

US- What's the motivation behind your lyrics, is there anything your specifically trying to get across. I've also noticed in your lyric that you sing a lot about movies.

J- I think a lot of the movie stuff is just kind of fun.

M- It gives us the release from trying to be too serious.

R- You gotta have fun.

US- What about "Chaos in Mayberry"

M- That's totally Joe's thing

J- I totally love the Andy Griffith show, i think it so damn funny.

US- So is Opie your idol

J- I think Barney is more of my idol, 'er no, I'd have to say Otis.

US- What about your other songs?

J- I think with some of the political stuff, when I write it I'm not trying to be really preachy about it, you know telling people...

R- He leaves it up to you to decide your own opinion.

J- Its more there to just inform you, than to say, you need to think this or you better not eat meat.

B- The bottom line is, each and every one of us, Be you a vegan, Be you any sort of faction, We've all got the same basic common humanities.

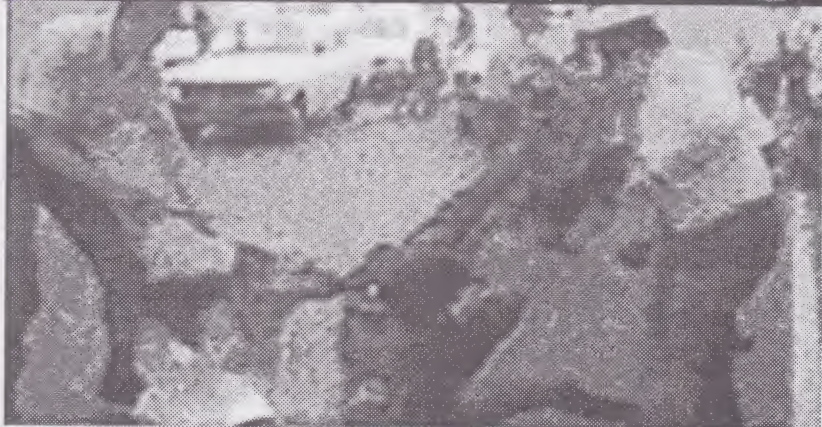
R- The good thing about Joe's lyrics, he's not trying to cram anything down your throat or brain wash you into believing what he believes. He's just telling you the basics of what's going on, you can do what the hell you want with it, take it anyway you want it.

J- The political stuff is kinda like, I'm already preaching to the converted, but it kinda like reinforcement, people listen to music and say like, yeah the government does suck, its kinda hoakie and cheesy, but its kinda reinforcing, the all around view what out country is like nowadays.

US- Any last words?

R- Can I have a blindfold and a cigarette. **US**

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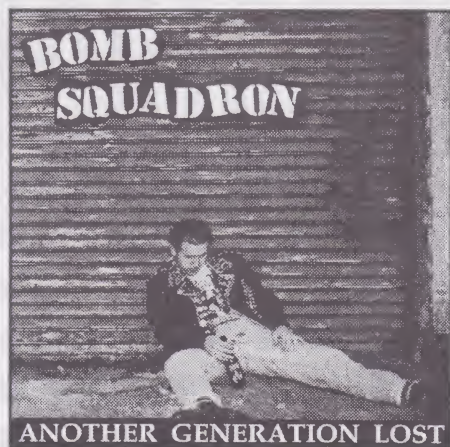
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judgements



Armed and Hammered More Punk Rock Than You [EP]

Canadian punks, Armed and Hammered make you glad to live in America; far, far away from them. Annoying and repetitive best describes 3 of 4 tracks leaving one glimmer of hope for the Canadian punks to rest their beer on.

Subvert & Deny Records
PO Box 13381, Chicago IL 60613

-Dutch

Big Bad Voodoo Daddy Big Bad Voodoo Daddy [CD]

This is a fun album! 12 Tracks of Big Band, Zoot Suits, Painted Ties, good gin and that Big jumpin' sound. Yeah this is a Fun Album. It's a hip disc that's cool daddy. Ok enough with the hip talk, this disk rocks and if worth every cent. With the Classic "Minni & the Moocher" as part of the collection this disk is a can't miss.

Coolsville, 1750 N. Vine St.
Hollywood, CA 90028

-Brian Bomb

Bomb Squadron Another Generation Lost [EP]

Connect the dots punk from start to finish. Each song sounded vaguely familiar I just couldn't put my finger on it. Over all it's catchy punk with guitar leads scattered about. The flip side started out with what I thought was a Four Skins cover but it turned out to be a cleverly disguised original. "Trendy" stands far above the rest of the EP.

Black Hole Records, 12 W. Willow Grove Ave
Philadelphia, PA 19118

-Dutch

Bouncing Souls Cracked [CD]

My initial reaction to this CD was that it had its moments but overall it was disappointing. Mid- to fast-paced punk with bits of ska thrown in. The Bouncing Souls seem to be lacking the energy that was present in previous releases. After a few more listens I discover... this CD kicks ass... It's



like owning 4 or 5 different 7 inches because the tempo and style change from song to song, leaving you guessing what is around the corner. It took a while but the bouncing souls have tightened their grip on me. Stand-out tracks are East End Mags and Low Life.

Epitaph Records, 2798 Sunset Blvd.
Los Angeles, CA 90026

-Dutch

The Business The Truth, the Whole Truth and nothing but... [CD]

You can't lose with the Business. These guys have been kickin' em' out as long as I can remember and they are still going strong. This CD has a production quality that all the others before it lacked, giving the Business a breath of fresh Guinness and a new foothold in the Oi scene. I do believe though that you can definitely hear bits and pieces of Rancid thrown in (ala lars), but still the best Business purchase I've ever made.

Taang! Records, 706 Pismo Court
San Diego, CA 92109

-Dutch

Dropkick Murphys Boys on the Docks [CD]

Boston and Proud, Irish and Proud, working class tales brought to life by the Dropkick Murphys. The first four tracks are outstanding, self-styled scally punk with hard driving verses, infectious choruses, and a bit of Pogues thrown in for flavor.

Cyclone Records, 24 Pheasant Run,
Merrimack, NH 03054

-Dutch

Dropkick Murphys Do or Die [CD]

Great, Brilliant, Incredible. What a fabulous album. Ahh...Bagpipes. That wonderful "swinging a cat by the tail" wail of the pipes. Raises the hair on my neck these songs do, I love this album.. punk mix, in with pub and Irish folk. Each song is a wonderful bit of story telling weaved with



angst riddle riffs and driving rhythms. DM even throws a couple of acoustic tracks that rock.

Hellcat Records, 2728 Sunset Blvd.
Los Angeles, CA 20026

-Brian Bomb

The Ducky Boys No Gettin' Out [CD]

It's been said before, and it's even been said by them, that the "Cartoony" cover shouldn't deceive you, these guys aren't joking around. The Ducky Boys play emotionally charged punk rock-n-roll, this three piece from Boston sounds like they have an entire army backing them up. Boston is certainly pushing out some talent as of lately and these guys are holding up the tradition. I have only one qualm about the CD and that is the packaging, (which should not and does not have any reflection on the quality of the music). If I hadn't heard the Ducky Boys before, and I had just stumbled across this CD at the store I wouldn't have touched it with a ten-foot pole. But that's why I'm here to tell you, go ahead the music kicks some thorough ass Boston style.

G.M.M. P.O. Box 15234
Atlanta, GA 30333

-Dutch

The Gadjets At Ease [CD]

If you heard the compilation "Give Em The Boot" and heard their song "Beautiful Girl", you, like myself, may have been thoroughly misled. I was pleasantly surprised by this song and thought that perhaps the band had matured and found their sound. I was never so wrong. Musta' been a fluke that they recorded one good song. This album is painful to listen too; it's that feeling you get when you're so embarrassed for a person that it hurts. I hate that. Then they put the one good song last so if you bought the album I'm sure you never made it to it. Go buy the comp instead. Except for that one crap song by NY All-stars, the one about the



Killer DJ's, it's a good buy. The killer DJ song reaches new height in ego, name-dropping and nausea. I hate that too.

Helicat Records, 2728 Sunset Blvd.
Los Angeles, CA 20026

-Bang Bang a la Taystee

Generation Excrement Self Titled [EP]

Hard, fast paced punk rock from Chicago with a positive note. Battery Bill is screaming out against the scene falling apart and the crime that litters the street, followed by an assault of screaming guitars. Generation Excrement has what it takes to thoroughly kick your ass. Who



said punks didn't care? (Somebody give him his H.R. tape back.)

Will E. Survive Records
P.O. Box 2065, Northlake, IL 60164

-Dutch

Hepcat Right On Time [CD]

Once again a beautifully laid down piece of music. Very smooth TRADITIONAL SKA.... Too SMOOTH.. If ya' like the other Hepcat releases you will like this one too. A good cover of the classic "Rudies All Around". 13 songs none of them bad but only one or two moves me to dance.

Helicat Records, 2728 Sunset Blvd.
Los Angeles, CA 20026

-Brian Bomb



Jumpin' Land Mines Kurt on Call [EP]

Knocking em' out from England, the Land mines play a classic style of English snotty punk. Kurt on call is a pretty standard, paint by numbers track, nothing much about it stands out. Yet the flip side track, Deadly Games rips all over the A side, fast, aggressive pissed punk, one to remember.

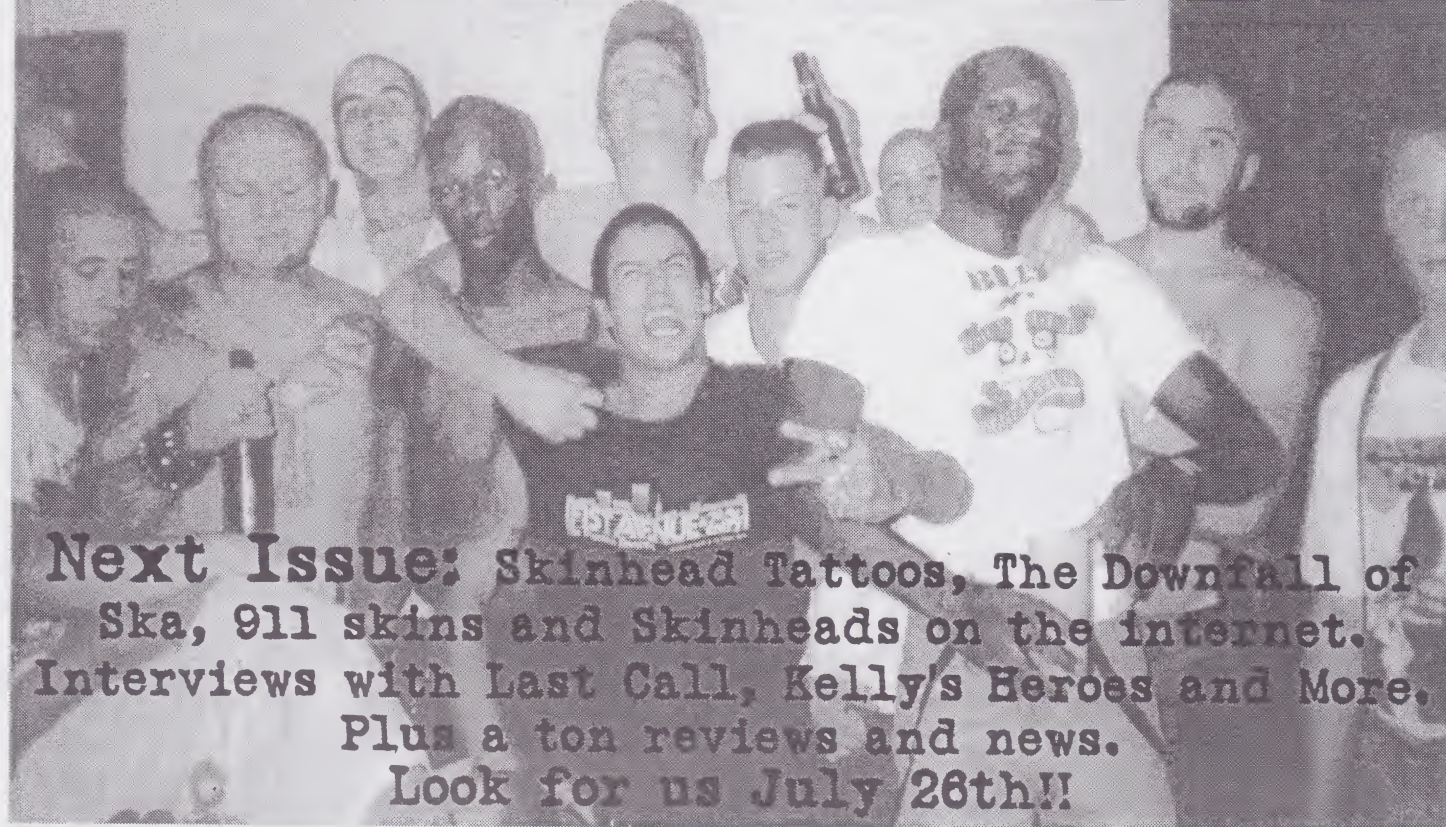
Family Man Records
4007 Lindsey Circle, Lincoln, NE 68524

-Dutch

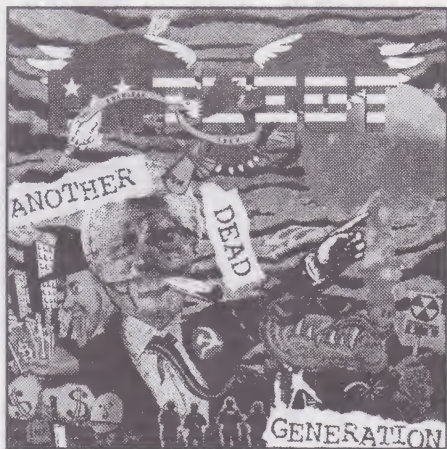
Patriot Another Dead Generation [CD]

The first time I heard these guys was on the "OI it a world invasion" comp. I wasn't

UPSTART



Next Issue: Skinhead Tattoos, The Downfall of Ska, 911 skins and Skinheads on the internet. Interviews with Last Call, Kelly's Heroes and More. Plus a ton reviews and news. Look for us July 26th!!



too impressed, but this new release shatters any doubts I had about Patriots ability to rock. Breaking away from the traditional English Oi mold, Patriot play a fast, aggressive style of American Oi with catchy lyrics, multiple changes and choruses that'll stick in your head for days. "To whom it may concern" sums it up for this bands attitude, "I work for a living cause I got no choice, I play in a band so you'll hear my voice, I like to drink and fight and jump around, Especially when I hear that Oi Oi sound." Definitely one to look for.

G.M.M. P.O. Box 15234 • Atlanta, GA 30333
-Dutch

Riot Squad **Self Titled [CD]**

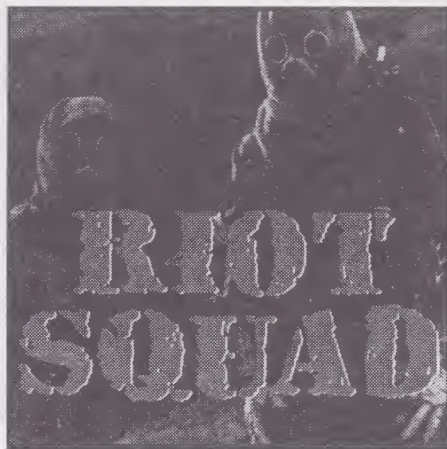
Melodic, melodic, tight, melodic, catchy, melodic, Damn tight, Damn melodic. What else can I say? Comparable to Youth Brigade and the Misfits, the production of this album is truly in a class by itself. Stand out vocals and a sound so tight and well constructed you can't go wrong. If your looking for balls to the wall punk you'll have to look elsewhere, but for some good ol' drinking tunes, Riot Squads a callin'.

Last Beat Records
2819 Commerce St. Dallas, TX 75226

-Dutch

The Slackers **Redlight [CD]**

Blah... Ok its good, real good, but its not the type of ska that I personally like. Too studio, to clean. It's as good as their last



disc on Moon Records. Lots of Traditional and Jazz influence the New NYC sound I guess. Out of 12 tracks I did like "Cooking For Tommy".

Hellcat Records, 2798 Sunset Blvd.
Los Angeles, CA 20026

-Brian Bomb

Squiggy **Anti-Establishment [EP]**

A Decent mix of Oi and Punk, the A side leaves you hanging, waiting for the big punch that never seems to deliver. They must of been saving the best for last though, "Boots and Braces, Studs and Leather" starts off the B side with sing along choruses and a little breakdown in the middle to catch your breath.

Headache Records
PO Box 204 Midland PK, NJ 07432

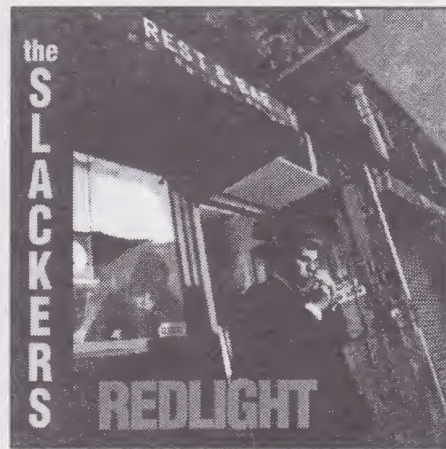
-Dutch

The Strike **A Conscience Left to Struggle with Pockets Full of Rust [CD]**

Out'ta Minneapolis, MN come the Strike totin' self proclaimed mod-rock. If your into the Clash or the Angelic Upstarts this is for you, their lyrics speak of working class struggle and solidarity, and they play that catchy Clash groove all too well.

P.O. Box 14208 • Minneapolis, MN 55414

-Dutch



Storm Watch **Right to Remain Violent [CD]**

Storm Watch kicks out hard hitting, boisterous Oi, with to the point lyrics stating their stance on posers, fashion skins and anyone who gets in their way. Musically they dish out tight, heavy American oi, creating a niche for themselves in the ever-growing American Oi genre! "Booze, Sex and Breakin' Necks-Storm Watch Skinheads."

G.M.M. P.O. Box 15234 • Atlanta, GA 30333
-Dutch

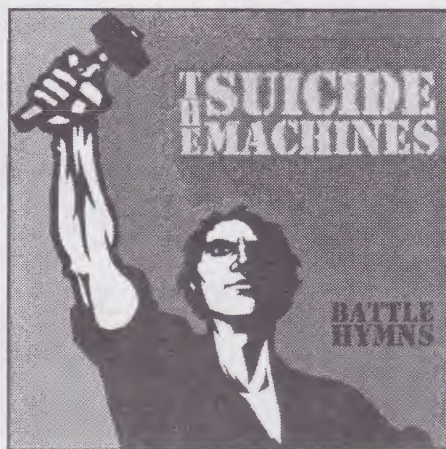
Subjugated **Up the Punx [EP]**

These guys are out to drink your beer and stink up your house. Apocalyptic paced crusty punk. 8 tracks on a fuckin' seven inch, Subjugated is pounding them out like Bastard Nomad fucks. Fuckin' killer!

Beer City, P.O. Box 26035
Milwaukee, WI 53226

The Suicide Machines **Battle Hymns**

First off let me say The Suicide Machines last album is one of the best group of songs that I pick up last year! Its one of those rare discs that moves me to dance and sing-along to, to me its as good as the Specials first LP or Blitz Voice of a Generation!!! Now as I sit here and listen to their newest release... I wasn't pleased but that's changing it's actually getting better with every song.... Punk - Hard-core -Ska -





Reggae-esque, big and heavy like BAD BRAINS use to be.... 22 songs with the longest being 2:19 and the shortest being 0.04... has most likely been formulated by Disney (Hollywood Records) for today's masses with short attention spans. But all that aside a solid performance...

Hollywood Record, 500 Buena Vista St.
Burbank, CA 91521

-Brian Bomb

**Templars
Bottom of the Barrels
Split (EP)**

I was a bit let down by the Templars track, War Heroes. It lacks the energy that I've heard before from these guys. None the less, a good EP. Bottom of the Barrels track, "We Won't Forget" is, I believe, their first song on vinyl, but it's obvious BOTB haven't been sitting around. We Won't Forget starts off hard and only gets better up until the chorus, then things fall apart. Once the chorus ends its back to business. Good musical arrangements, driving and melodic verses, a good first release. I want to hear what's next from BOTB.

Oink, P.O. Box 27813
Washington, D.C. 20038

-Dutch

**U.S. Bombs
War Birth (LP)**

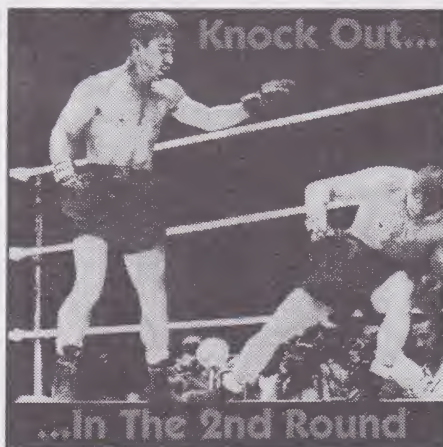
Old school snotty punk at its best. The U.S. Bombs throw out blues laden punk rock tales of the heroin love affair, gritty punks and baby sitter bangin'. A great mix of styles, and definitely some talented musicians.

HellCat Records, 2798 Sunset Blvd.
Los Angeles, CA 20026

-Dutch

**Vanilla Muffins
Sugar Oi will win! (CD)**

Not too many people have heard of the Vanilla Muffins and a lot of those who have pass on it because of the name. Hailing from Switzerland, These guys had a bit of a time coming up with song in English because the lyrics are so repetitive at times it almost becomes a joke. The Vanilla Muffins play a 77ish style of punk and oi mixed together, "sugar oi" as they call it,



with songs that are a little too happy for me at times. A couple of stand out songs "Capucine (Sans Elle), Chelse: West Ham United and We're Disturbing You," they even do a song about Elvis.

Walzwerk, P.O. Box 1341, D-74643
Kunzelsau

-Dutch

**The Workin' Stiffs
Dog Tired (CD)**

This fucker smokes... the Workin' Stiffs are bringing a new attitude to the current Oi scene. Another in the line of new American Oi bands breaking away from the cast of English Oi, also they have stepped away from the hard-core Oi style that has been currently weeding its way into American Oi. Melodic Riffs, backed by working class grooves, headed by Dave's stand out vocals that are truly in a class of their own, a fine mix of English "nasal" and American "gruff"

East Bay Menace, P.O. Box 3313
Oakland, CA 94609

-Dutch

**Knock Out...
In The Second Round (CD)**

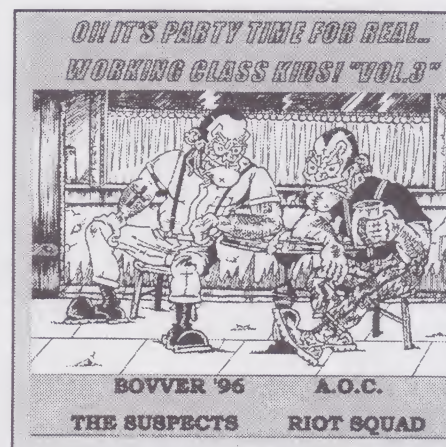
This comp from Knock Out Records features bands and releases available through Knock Out. The great thing about promo samplers is they are dirt fuckin' cheap and usually have a hammerin' mix of bands and this one is no different. 24 tracks of thorough fuckin' Oi and a ska song. Most of the names are common and there are a few unknown treats thrown in, LOIKAEMIE, RED FLAG 77, TOM & THE BOOT BOYS plus a ton of others. If you can find this, grab it because I don't think it will be around long.

Knock Out Records, Postfach 100 716,
46527 Dislaken, Germany

-Dutch

**Oi! It's Party Time For
Real Working Class Kids!
Vol. 3 (EP)**

Four outstanding tracks from bands across the States and Europe. Bover 96 from Philly kicks it off with a tight aggressive song, led with strong female vocals that'll leave ya' yearnin' for more. A.O.C. from France follows with "L'ape'ro". The French know their Oi and this track is proof. The



Suspects from Arlington VA. start out the flip side with "East street Punks" and Texas punkster's Riot Squad finish it off with the anthemic "Stand up and be Proud". Unlike a lot of comps with only one or two worthwhile tracks, Party Time keeps up the pace the whole way.

One By One Record
Bellevue, 56450 Theix, France

-Dutch



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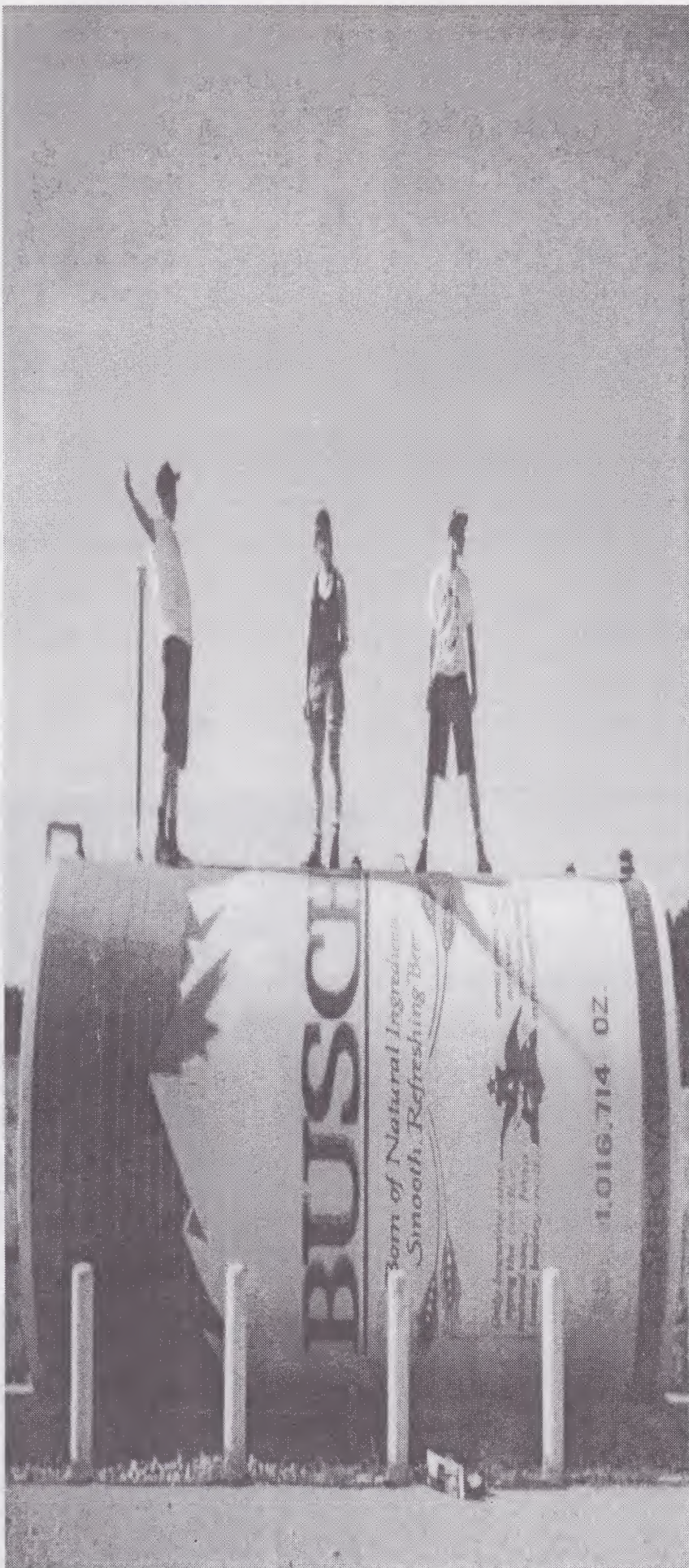
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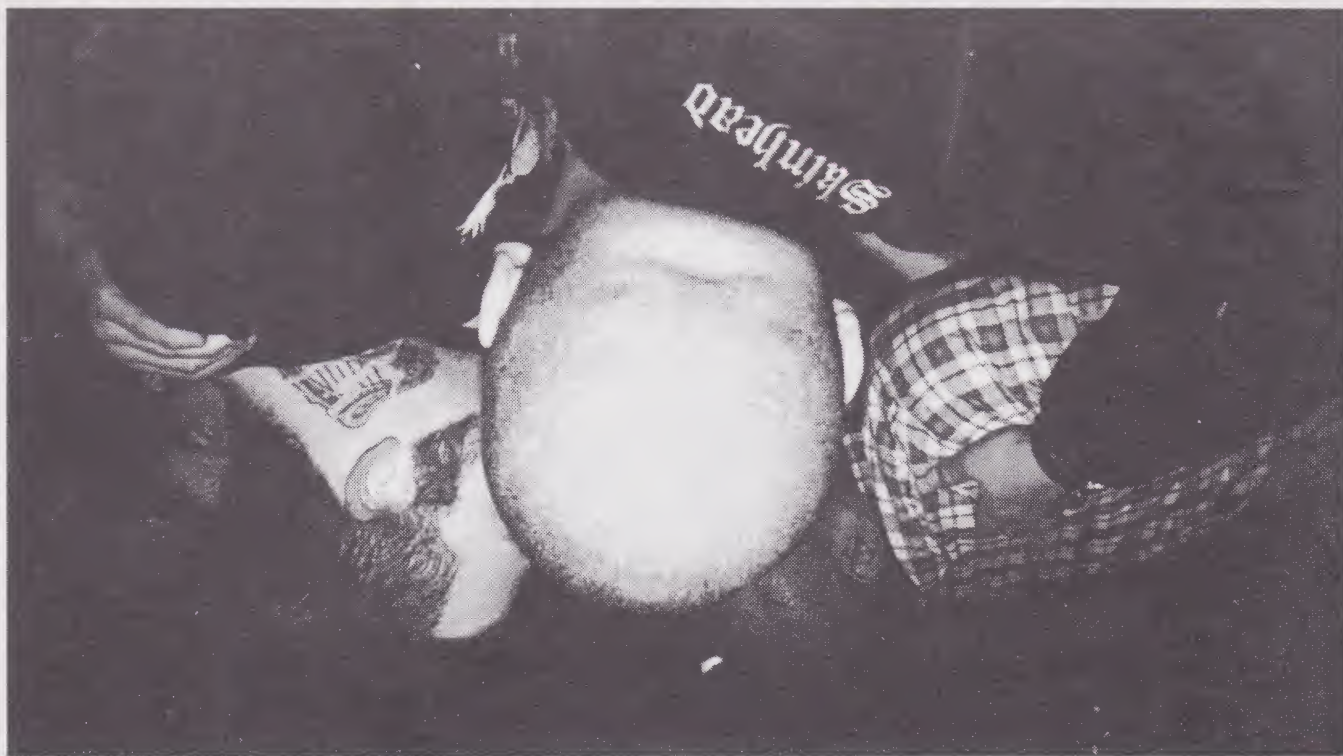
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